

10/523,686

Proposed DRAFT amended claim 1

Attached to 3/20/2009 Interview Summary

/GK/

1. (Currently Amended) A tire building drum comprising: a pair of bead lock means adapted to be displaced toward and away from each other and thereby expanded or contracted radially; carcass band folding-back means, positioned adjacent to the bead lock means, respectively; and a center shaft for supporting these means;

wherein said tire building drum further comprises at least one core body at an axial inside of said bead lock means, said core body comprising a plurality of sheets of rigid support members toroidally disposed and adapted to be displaced and thereby expanded or ~~contracted~~expand or contract the core body;

a center bladder deformable for expansion or contraction, which extends at a radial outside of said core body, and which has both axial side portions adapted to be displaced toward and away from each other integrally with said bead lock means, respectively; and

wherein the center bladder is expandable or contractible independently of the movement of the rigid support members, both in axial and radial directions.